[Carta de lord Avebury a Mr. Ahmed]

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From The Chairman
Parliamentary Human Rights Group

1984 December 6

Dear Mr Ahmed:

I wrote to the Secretary-General on August 10 regarding his "Progress Report on the Question of East Timor," published 25 July. I have not yet received a reply to my letter (a copy of which I enclose), and I thought that as you are Sr Perez de Cuellar's assistant for the consultations on East Timor you might be able to answer the questions I raised with him about the "Progress Report."

In my previous letter, I reminded the Secretary-General that the General Assembly's resolution on East Timor called on him "to initiate consultations with all parties directly concerned, with a view to exploring avenues for achieving a comprehensive settlement of the problem." I pointed out that the people of East Timor must be considered as one of the "parties directly concerned" and that a comprehensive settlement will be impossible without the involvement of the East Timorese. I suggested that representatives of the East Timorese be included on the Secretary-General's agenda of consultations, and asked what steps would be taken to that end.

To my knowledge, no effort to include the East Timorese in the discussions has been made since I wrote that letter, and so I must again respectfully remind you of the dictates of Resolution 37/30. I suggest that the Secretary-General and yourself either a) consult with representatives of Fretilin, which can only be done in East Timor itself; or b) take direct soundings of the Timorese people to determine their feelings towards the future of their country.

I would be grateful to know whether you intend to take either of these steps and, if so, when this will take place, so that I can inform the members of the Parliamentary Human Rights Group accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Avebury, Chairman

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